

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of Christopher D. Knight
Serial No. 09/333,095
Filed June 15, 1999
For PROCESS FOR OPTIMIZING MILK PRODUCTION
Examiner Nina Bhat

Art Unit 1761

July 10, 2000

Response Under 37 C.F.R. 1.116
Amendment After Final

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS,

SIR:

In response to the Office action dated April 10, 2000, please enter the following amendments:

In the Specification:

Page 6, line 26, after "Systems," replace "Internet Text Address:

HTTP://www.inform.umd.edu" with - - The National Dairy Database, June 1992 - - .

In the Claims:

Please amend claim 9 as follows:

9. A process for formulating a ruminant food ration, the process comprising:

determining the methionine needs of the ruminant using a nutritional model
wherein the nutritional model is a computer program,

identifying a plurality of natural or synthetic feed ingredients and the nutrient composition of each of said ingredients wherein one of said ingredients is a hydroxy analog of methionine selected from the group consisting of 2-hydroxy-4-(methylthio)butanoic acid, ammonium salts of 2-hydroxy-4-(methylthio)butanoic acid, alkaline earth salts of 2-hydroxy-4-(methylthio)butanoic acid, alkali earth salts of 2-



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